



20 NOV 2023

Memorandum

From: Rich Rainer, Town Administrator
To: Portsmouth Town Council

SUBJ: PROPOSAL FOR REALLOCATION OF AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) FUNDS FOR FIRE STATION RENOVATIONS

Encl: (1) Council approved ARPA priorities

Honorable Council,

As we continue to strive for inclusivity and equality within our fire station, I am writing to propose a necessary allocation of funds to facilitate the accommodation of female firefighters. Currently, our fire station lacks appropriate facilities for female personnel, and we anticipate renovation costs of up to \$115,000 to address this crucial need.

In light of our commitment to diversity and equal opportunity, I propose reallocating a portion of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds that were initially earmarked for the study and purchase of the Old Stone Bridge and Teddy's Beach from the Rhode Island Department of Transportation (DOT). Unfortunately, due to challenges in reaching an agreement with the DOT, the initiative to acquire these properties has become dormant as the DOT reconsiders their future.

Given the pressing need to accommodate all firefighters, I suggest reallocating \$115,000 of the ARPA funds initially designated for the Old Stove Bridge and Teddy's Beach purchase to cover the costs associated with modifying our fire station. This reallocation would not only address an immediate necessity but also aligns with the spirit of the ARPA funds.

I believe investing in the renovation of our fire station to accommodate female firefighters is a strategic and worthwhile use of these funds, contributing to the overall enhancement of our fire station facilities.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very respectfully,


Rich Rainer

ARPA COMMITMENTS AND PRIORITIES

As of 11/20/2023

Municipal FY21	\$ 901,510
Municipal FY22	\$ 901,510
County FY 21	\$ 1,672,974
County FY 22	\$ 1,672,974
	<u>\$ 5,148,969</u>

Priorities: Infrastructure
Public Safety
Broadband
PI Water
Resiliency

Respond to the pandemic / necessary investments

Town Hall-Council Chambers A/V System Upgrade	\$ (102,868)
Support Portsmouth Business Campaign	\$ (50,000)
Desktops Replacement (Police, Fire, DPW) (ARPA Funded)	\$ (14,000)
Fire Records & Dispatching Software and Equipment (ARPA Fund)	\$ (77,000)
Life Line Ambulance	\$ (320,000)
Fiber line (DPW to Fire building) (ARPA Funded)	\$ (20,000)
EMA: EOC Upgrades (ARPA Funded)	\$ (8,000)
EMA: Mobile CMD Post (ARPA Funded)	\$ (5,300)
Dispatch Console (ARPA Funded)	\$ (255,000)
	<u>\$ (852,168)</u>

Recommended Priorities

Emergency Apparatus / CIP	\$ (1,500,000.00)
Fire Bay Doors	\$ (60,655.00)
SCBA Cylinders (11 required)	\$ (16,995.00)
PI Water System	\$ (300,000.00)
Island Park Storm Drain Repair	\$ (110,000.00)
Portsmouth Park Storm Drain and Catch Replacement	\$ (450,000.00)
Resilience Program	\$ (40,000.00)
Old Stone Bridge and Teddy's Beach	\$ (150,000.00)
Class 1 Survey	\$ (7,500.00)
Abutment Evaluation	\$ (35,800.00)
Phase 1 Environmental Study	\$ (3,750.00)
Hog Island Firefighting	\$ (23,252.00)
PIVFD Capital Needs	\$ (35,000.00)
Cesspool Replacement Grant Program	\$ (500,000.00)
DPW Water main extension	\$ (61,190.93)
PWFD Water Infrastructure (Sakonnet River Pipeline)	\$ (383,812.50)
EMA supplies & storage	\$ (13,000.00)
Hathaway Elementary School Water Main Pipe	\$ (20,000.00)
Street Sweeper	\$ (248,055.00)
Jet Trailer	\$ (65,535.00)
DPW 800Mhz Radios	\$ (142,316.61)
Police Tasers	\$ (25,700.00)
Public Safety IT Servers	\$ (20,000.00)
PIVFD LUCAS Chest Compression System	\$ (13,608.23)
Turnpike Playground Renovation	\$ (20,000.00)
Broadband: planning work and enhancing GIS solutions	\$ (50,000.00)
	<u>\$ (4,296,170.27)</u>
Allocated	\$ (5,148,337.81)
Granted	\$ 5,148,969.00
Remaining	<u>\$ 631.19</u>



PORTSMOUTH FIRE DEPARTMENT

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November 19, 2023

Subject: Woman's Bathroom/Bunkroom

The Fire Department has always lacked a separate woman's bathroom and bunkroom facilities. I understand this became an issue in the past and was recognized in a design study performed for the Town in 2015.

We are currently in the process of filling a vacancy and the possibility exists that it will be a woman. Either way, we need to correct this deficiency.

I have reached out to our regular contractors for pricing. To create a women's bathroom and modify the existing bunkroom into individual, separated spaces, the total costs are as follows:

Bathroom - \$26,444.00

Bunkroom - \$68,125.00

Total - \$ 94,569.00

As these costs were gathered quickly, without the benefit of formalized plans, I am respectfully asking that the renovations be funded, and at a level not to exceed \$115,000.00.

Paul D. Ford
Fire Chief